

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A PLL circuit comprising:

a phase comparing means for comparing phases between a reference signal and an internal signal and outputting a
5 phase difference signal according to a phase difference therebetween;

a plurality of oscillators which have mutually different frequency variable ranges and whose frequencies are respectively controlled in accordance with a phase
10 control signal;

a selecting means for selecting one of the outputs from the plurality of oscillators based on the phase difference signal or the phase control signal; and

a frequency dividing means for generating the internal
15 signal by dividing an oscillator output selected by the selecting means, wherein

provided is a means for approximating, when the oscillator selecting state is changed, an output phase of the frequency divider to the phase of the reference signal.

20 2. The PLL circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of oscillators have mutually overlapping frequency variable ranges.

3. The PLL circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of oscillators have mutually different
25 operating threshold voltage values.

4. The PLL circuit according to any one of Claims 1 through 3, wherein

the selecting means switches over outputs from the

plurality of oscillators based on a history of the phase difference signal or the phase control signal.

5. The PLL circuit according to any one of Claims 1 through 4, wherein

5 the oscillators are voltage controlled oscillators, and

provided is a means for converting the phase difference signal to a voltage value.

6. The PLL circuit according to Claim 5, wherein
10 provided is a means for setting two threshold voltages having mutually different values within a variable voltage range of the phase control voltage and temporarily setting, when the voltage controlled oscillator selecting state is changed, a value of the phase control voltage in a range
15 between the two threshold voltages.

7. The PLL circuit according to Claim 6, wherein
provided is a means for changing a value of the temporarily setting phase control voltage in accordance with a history when the voltage controlled oscillator selecting
20 state is changed.

8. The PLL circuit according to Claim 6, wherein
when the voltage controlled oscillator selecting state is switched over as a result of the phase control voltage becoming out of the range between the two threshold voltages,
25 the temporarily setting phase control voltage is set, out of the two threshold voltages, in the vicinity of the phase control voltage-side threshold voltage.

9. The PLL circuit according to Claim 6, wherein

when the voltage controlled oscillator selecting state is switched over as a result of the phase control voltage becoming out of the range between the two threshold voltages and when the phase control voltage becomes out of the range
5 between the two threshold voltages twice or more in series, the temporarily setting phase control voltage is set, out of the two threshold voltages, in the vicinity of the phase control voltage-side threshold voltage.

10. The PLL circuit according to Claim 6, wherein
10 when the phase control voltage becomes out of the range between the two threshold voltages, depending on whether this phase control voltage is higher than the two threshold voltages or lower than the two threshold voltages, whether setting the phase control voltage higher or setting
15 the same lower than an intermediate potential between the two threshold voltages is controlled.

11. A PLL circuit comprising:

a phase comparing means for comparing phases between a reference signal and an internal signal and outputting a
20 phase difference signal according to a phase difference therebetween;

a plurality of resonant circuits provided with mutually different resonance frequencies;

an oscillator whose oscillation frequency is
25 controlled in accordance with the resonant circuits and a phase control signal;

a selecting means for selecting one of the plurality of resonant circuits based on the phase difference signal or

the phase control signal; and

a frequency dividing means for generating the internal signal by dividing an output from the oscillator, wherein

provided is a means for approximating, when the
5 resonant circuit selecting state is changed, an output phase of the frequency divider to the phase of the reference signal.

12. The PLL circuit according to Claim 11, wherein
the selecting means switches over the plurality of
10 resonant circuits based on a history of the phase difference signal or the phase control signal.

13. The PLL circuit according to Claim 11 or 12,
wherein

the oscillator is a voltage controlled oscillator, and
15 provided is a means for converting the phase difference signal to a voltage value.

14. The PLL circuit according to Claim 13, wherein
provided is a means for setting two threshold voltages
having mutually different values within a variable voltage
20 range of the phase control voltage and temporarily setting, when the resonant circuit selecting state is changed, a value of the phase control voltage in a range between the two threshold voltages.

15. The PLL circuit according to Claim 14, wherein
25 provided is a means for changing a value of the temporarily setting phase control voltage in accordance with a history when the resonant circuit selecting state is changed.

16. The PLL circuit according to Claim 14, wherein
when the resonant circuit selecting state is switched
over as a result of the phase control voltage becoming out
of the range between the two threshold voltages, the
5 temporarily setting phase control voltage is set, out of the
two threshold voltages, in the vicinity of the phase control
voltage-side threshold voltage.

17. The PLL circuit according to Claim 14, wherein
when the resonant circuit selecting state is switched
10 over as a result of the phase control voltage becoming out
of the range between the two threshold voltages and when the
phase control voltage becomes out of the range between the
two threshold voltages twice or more in series, the
temporarily setting phase control voltage is set, out of the
15 two threshold voltages, in the vicinity of the phase control
voltage-side threshold voltage.

18. The PLL circuit according to Claim 14, wherein
when the phase control voltage becomes out of the
range sandwiched between the two threshold voltages,
20 depending on whether this phase control voltage is greater
than the two threshold voltages or smaller than the two
threshold voltages, whether setting the phase control
voltage higher or setting the same lower than an
intermediate potential between the two threshold voltages is
25 controlled.

19. A PLL circuit comprising:

a phase comparing means for comparing phases between a
reference signal and an internal signal and outputting a

phase difference signal according to a phase difference therebetween;

an oscillator constructed by coupling a plurality of delay circuits whose delay times are respectively controlled
5 in accordance with a phase control signal;

a selecting means for switching over the coupling number of delay circuits based on the phase difference signal or the phase control signal; and

a frequency dividing means for generating the internal
10 signal by dividing an oscillator output selected by the selecting means, wherein

provided is a means for approximating, when the oscillator selecting state is changed, an output phase of the frequency divider to the phase of the reference signal.

15 20. The PLL circuit according to Claim 19, wherein the selecting means switches over the coupling number of the delay circuits based on a history of the phase difference signal or the phase control signal.

20 21. The PLL circuit according to Claim 19 or 20, wherein

the oscillator is a voltage controlled oscillator, and provided is a means for converting the phase difference signal to a voltage value.

22. The PLL circuit according to Claim 21, wherein
25 provided is a means for setting two threshold voltages having mutually different values within a variable voltage range of the phase control voltage and temporarily setting, when the delay circuit coupling number selecting state is

changed, a value of the phase control voltage in a range between the two threshold voltages.

23. The PLL circuit according to Claim 22, wherein provided is a means for changing a value of the temporarily setting phase control voltage in accordance with a history when the delay circuit coupling number selecting state is changed.

24. The PLL circuit according to Claim 22, wherein when the delay circuit coupling number selecting state is switched over as a result of the phase control voltage becoming out of the range between the two threshold voltages, the temporarily setting phase control voltage is set, out of the two threshold voltages, in the vicinity of the phase control voltage-side threshold voltage.

25. The PLL circuit according to Claim 22, wherein when the delay circuit coupling number selecting state is switched over as a result of the phase control voltage becoming out of the range between the two threshold voltages and when the phase control voltage becomes out of the range between the two threshold voltages twice or more in series, the temporarily setting phase control voltage is set, out of the two threshold voltages, in the vicinity of the phase control voltage-side threshold voltage.

26. The PLL circuit according to Claim 22, wherein when the phase control voltage becomes out of the range between the two threshold voltages, depending on whether this phase control voltage is greater than the two threshold voltages or smaller than the two threshold

voltages, whether setting the phase control voltage higher or setting the same lower than an intermediate potential between the two threshold voltages is controlled.

27. The PLL circuit according to any one of Claims 1
5 through 26, wherein

the output phase of the frequency dividing means is synchronized with the phase of the reference signal.